

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) A data reproduction system reading out, using a data reader, data recorded in a recording medium using a data recorder,

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said data recorder comprising:

a storage circuit storing data,

a detection circuit detecting a date,

a set circuit setting a time limit allowing output of said data using

said data reader, and

a record circuit connected to said storage circuit, said detection

circuit and said set circuit to record the data stored in said storage circuit,

the time limit set by said set circuit, and a recorded date of recording said

data and said time limit detected by said detection circuit into said

recording medium,

said data reader comprising:

a detection circuit detecting a date,

a read circuit reading out said time limit and said recorded date from

said recording medium,

a determination circuit connected to said detection circuit and said read circuit of said data reader to determine whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date read out by said read circuit and a current date detected by said detection circuit,

an output circuit connected to said determination circuit to read out said data from said recording medium for output when output of said data is allowed, and

~~The data reproduction system according to claim 1, said data reader further comprising an overwrite circuit connected to the detection circuit of said data reader to overwrite the recorded date recorded in said recording medium with the current date detected by said detection circuit.~~

3. (currently amended) The data reproduction system according to claim ~~1~~2, wherein said determination circuit comprises includes a circuit determining that output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed when said current date is after said recorded data and before said time limit.

4. (currently amended) A data reproduction system reading out, using a data reader, data recorded in a recording medium using a data recorder, said data recorder comprising:

a storage circuit storing data,  
a detection circuit detecting a date,  
a set circuit setting a time limit allowing output of said data using  
said data reader, and  
a record circuit connected to said storage circuit, said detection  
circuit and said set circuit to record the data stored in said storage circuit,  
the time limit set by said set circuit, and a recorded date of recording said  
data and said time limit detected by said detection circuit into said  
recording medium,  
said data reader comprising:  
a detection circuit detecting a date,  
a read circuit reading out said time limit and said recorded date from  
said recording medium,  
a determination circuit connected to said detection circuit and said  
read circuit of said data reader to determine whether output of said data  
recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time  
limit and said recorded date read out by said read circuit and a current date  
detected by said detection circuit, and  
an output circuit connected to said determination circuit to read out  
said data from said recording medium for output when output of said data is  
allowed.

~~The data reproduction system according to claim 1, wherein said~~  
detection circuit of said data reader includes:  
a circuit detecting a date of commencing output of said data,  
a circuit detecting an elapsed time from said date of commencing  
output, and  
a circuit detecting a current date based on said date of commencing  
output and said elapsed time.

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5. (currently amended) A data reproduction system reading out,  
using a data reader, data recorded in a recording medium using a data recorder,  
said data recorder comprising:  
a storage circuit storing data,  
a detection circuit detecting a date,  
a set circuit setting a time limit allowing output of said data using  
said data reader, and  
a record circuit connected to said storage circuit, said detection  
circuit and said set circuit to record the data stored in said storage circuit,  
the time limit set by said set circuit, and a recorded date of recording said  
data and said time limit detected by said detection circuit into said  
recording medium,  
said data reader comprising:

a detection circuit detecting a date,  
a read circuit reading out said time limit and said recorded date from  
said recording medium,  
a determination circuit connected to said detection circuit and said  
read circuit of said data reader to determine whether output of said data  
recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time  
limit and said recorded date read out by said read circuit and a current date  
detected by said detection circuit,  
an output circuit connected to said determination circuit to read out  
said data from said recording medium for output when output of said data is  
allowed, and

~~The data reproduction system according to claim 1, said data reader~~  
~~further comprising an incorrect date detection circuit detecting that said~~  
~~current date is incorrect when said current date is before said recorded date.~~

6. (original) The data reproduction system according to claim 5,  
said data reader further including a processing circuit connected to said incorrect  
date detection circuit disabling output of said data from said recording medium  
when detection is made that said current date is incorrect.

7. (currently amended) A data reproduction system reading out,  
using a data reader, data recorded in a recording medium using a data recorder,

said data recorder comprising:

a storage circuit storing data,

a detection circuit detecting a date,

a set circuit setting a time limit allowing output of said data using

said data reader, and

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a record circuit connected to said storage circuit, said detection

circuit and said set circuit to record the data stored in said storage circuit,

the time limit set by said set circuit, and a recorded date of recording said

data and said time limit detected by said detection circuit into said

recording medium,

said data reader comprising:

a detection circuit detecting a date,

a read circuit reading out said time limit and said recorded date from  
said recording medium,

a determination circuit connected to said detection circuit and said  
read circuit of said data reader to determine whether output of said data  
recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time  
limit and said recorded date read out by said read circuit and a current date  
detected by said detection circuit,

an output circuit connected to said determination circuit to read out  
said data from said recording medium for output when output of said data is  
allowed, and

~~The data reproduction system according to claim 1, said data reader~~  
~~further comprising a monitor date storage circuit connected to said~~  
detection circuit of said data reader to store the date detected by the  
detection circuit of said data reader as a monitor date,

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wherein said determination circuit comprises a circuit determining  
whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed  
or not based on said time limit, said recorded date, said monitor date and  
said current date.

8. (original) The data reproduction system according to claim 7,  
wherein said determination circuit comprises a circuit determining that output of  
said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed when said current date is  
after said recorded date, after said monitor date, and before said time limit.

9. (original) The data reproduction system according to claim 8,  
said data reader further comprising an incorrect date detection circuit detecting  
that said current date is incorrect when said current date is before said monitor  
date.

10. (canceled)

11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A data reader used in a data reproduction system reading out, using a data reader, data written into a recording medium using a data recorder,

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said data recorder recording into said recording medium said data, a time limit allowing output of said data using said data reader, and a recorded date of recording said data and said time limit in said recording medium,

said data reader comprising:

a detection circuit detecting a date,

a read circuit reading out said time limit and said recorded date from said recording medium,

a determination circuit connected to said detection circuit and said read circuit of said data reader to determine whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date read out by said read circuit, and a current date detected by said detection circuit,



an output circuit connected to said determination circuit to read out  
said data from said recording medium for output when output of said data is  
allowed, and

~~The data reader according to claim 11, further comprising an~~  
overwrite circuit connected to said detection circuit of said data reader to  
overwrite the recorded date recorded in said recording medium with the  
current date detected by said detection circuit.

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13. (currently amended)      The data reader according to claim 4412,  
wherein said determination circuit comprises a circuit determining that output of  
said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed when said current date is  
after said recorded date and before said time limit.

14. (currently amended)      A data reader used in a data reproduction  
system reading out, using a data reader, data written into a recording medium  
using a data recorder,

said data recorder recording into said recording medium said data, a time  
limit allowing output of said data using said data reader, and a recorded date of  
recording said data and said time limit in said recording medium,

said data reader comprising:

a detection circuit detecting a date,

a read circuit reading out said time limit and said recorded date from  
said recording medium,

a determination circuit connected to said detection circuit and said  
read circuit of said data reader to determine whether output of said data  
recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time  
limit and said recorded date read out by said read circuit, and a current date  
detected by said detection circuit, and

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an output circuit connected to said determination circuit to read out  
said data from said recording medium for output when output of said data is  
allowed,

~~The data reader according to claim 11,~~ wherein said detection circuit  
comprises:

a circuit detecting a date of commencing output of said data,

a circuit detecting an elapsed time from said date of commencing  
output.

15. (currently amended) A data reader used in a data reproduction  
system reading out, using a data reader, data written into a recording medium  
using a data recorder,

said data recorder recording into said recording medium said data, a time limit allowing output of said data using said data reader, and a recorded date of recording said data and said time limit in said recording medium,

said data reader comprising:

a detection circuit detecting a date,

a read circuit reading out said time limit and said recorded date from said recording medium,

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a determination circuit connected to said detection circuit and said read circuit of said data reader to determine whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date read out by said read circuit, and a current date detected by said detection circuit,

an output circuit connected to said determination circuit to read out said data from said recording medium for output when output of said data is allowed, and

~~The data reader according to claim 11, further comprising an~~  
incorrect date detection circuit detecting that said current date is incorrect  
when said current date is before said recorded date.

16. (original) The data reader according to claim 15, further  
comprising a processing circuit connected to said incorrect date detection circuit to

disable output of said data from said recording medium when detection is made that said current date is incorrect.

17. (currently amended) A data reader used in a data reproduction system reading out, using a data reader, data written into a recording medium using a data recorder,  
said data recorder recording into said recording medium said data, a time limit allowing output of said data using said data reader, and a recorded date of recording said data and said time limit in said recording medium,  
said data reader comprising:  
a detection circuit detecting a date,  
a read circuit reading out said time limit and said recorded date from said recording medium,  
a determination circuit connected to said detection circuit and said read circuit of said data reader to determine whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date read out by said read circuit, and a current date detected by said detection circuit,  
an output circuit connected to said determination circuit to read out said data from said recording medium for output when output of said data is allowed, and

~~The data reader according to claim 1, further comprising a monitor~~  
date storage circuit connected to the detection circuit of said data reader to  
store the date detected by the detection circuit of said data reader as a  
monitor date,

wherein said determination circuit comprises a circuit determining  
whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed  
or not based on said time limit, said recorded date, said monitor date and  
said current date.

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18. (original) The data reader according to claim 17, wherein said  
determination circuit comprises a circuit determining that output of said data  
recorded in said recording medium is allowed when said current date is after said  
recorded date, after said monitor date and before said time limit.

19. (original) The data reader according to claim 18, further  
comprising an incorrect date detection circuit detecting that said current date is  
incorrect when said current date is before said monitor date.

20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) A data reproduction system reading out,  
using a data reader, data written in a recording medium using a data recorder,

said data recorder comprising:

storage means for storing data,

detection means for detecting a date,

set means for setting a time limit allowing output of said data using

said data reader, and

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record means connected to said storage means, said detection means

and said set means for recording the data stored in said storage means, the

time limit set by said set means, and a recorded date of recording said data

and said time limit, detected by said detection means into said recording

medium,

said data reader comprising:

detection means for detecting a date,

read means for reading said time limit and said recorded date from

said recording medium,

determination means connected to said detection means and said

read means of said data reader for determining whether output of said data

recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time

limit and said recorded date read out by said read means and a current date

detected by said detection means,

output means connected to said determination means to read out said data from said recording means for output when output of said data is allowed, and

~~The data reproduction system according to claim 20, said data reader further comprising overwrite means connected to said detection means of said data reader for overwriting the recorded date recorded in said recording medium with the current date detected by said detection means.~~

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22. (currently amended) The data reproduction system according to claim ~~20~~21, wherein said determination means comprises means for determining that output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed when said current date is after said recorded date and before said time limit.

23. (currently amended) A data reproduction system reading out, using a data reader, data written in a recording medium using a data recorder, said data recorder comprising:  
storage means for storing data,  
detection means for detecting a date,  
set means for setting a time limit allowing output of said data using said data reader, and

record means connected to said storage means, said detection means  
and said set means for recording the data stored in said storage means, the  
time limit set by said set means, and a recorded date of recording said data  
and said time limit, detected by said detection means into said recording  
medium,

said data reader comprising:

detection means for detecting a date,

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read means for reading said time limit and said recorded date from  
said recording medium,

determination means connected to said detection means and said  
read means of said data reader for determining whether output of said data  
recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time  
limit and said recorded date read out by said read means and a current date  
detected by said detection means, and

output means connected to said determination means to read out said  
data from said recording means for output when output of said data is  
allowed,

~~The data reproduction system according to claim 20, wherein said~~  
detection means of said data reader comprises:

means for detecting a date of commencing output of said data,



means for detecting an elapsed time from said date of commencing output, and

means for detecting a current date based on said date of commencing output and said elapsed time.

24. (currently amended) A data reproduction system reading out, using a data reader, data written in a recording medium using a data recorder,

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said data recorder comprising:

storage means for storing data,

detection means for detecting a date,

set means for setting a time limit allowing output of said data using said data reader, and

record means connected to said storage means, said detection means and said set means for recording the data stored in said storage means, the time limit set by said set means, and a recorded date of recording said data and said time limit, detected by said detection means into said recording medium,

said data reader comprising:

detection means for detecting a date,

read means for reading said time limit and said recorded date from said recording medium,

determination means connected to said detection means and said  
read means of said data reader for determining whether output of said data  
recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time  
limit and said recorded date read out by said read means and a current date  
detected by said detection means,

output means connected to said determination means to read out said  
data from said recording means for output when output of said data is  
allowed, and

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~~The data reproduction system according to claim 20, said data reader~~  
~~further comprising incorrect date detection means for detecting that said~~  
~~current date is incorrect when said current date is before said recorded date.~~

25. (original) The data reproduction system according to claim 24,  
said data reader further comprising processing means connected to said incorrect  
date detection means for disabling output of said data from said recording medium  
when detection is made that said current date is incorrect.

26. (currently amended) A data reproduction system reading out,  
using a data reader, data written in a recording medium using a data recorder,  
said data recorder comprising:

storage means for storing data,

detection means for detecting a date,

set means for setting a time limit allowing output of said data using  
said data reader, and

record means connected to said storage means, said detection means  
and said set means for recording the data stored in said storage means, the  
time limit set by said set means, and a recorded date of recording said data  
and said time limit, detected by said detection means into said recording  
medium,

said data reader comprising:

detection means for detecting a date,

read means for reading said time limit and said recorded date from  
said recording medium,

determination means connected to said detection means and said  
read means of said data reader for determining whether output of said data  
recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time  
limit and said recorded date read out by said read means and a current date  
detected by said detection means,

output means connected to said determination means to read out said  
data from said recording means for output when output of said data is  
allowed, and

~~The data reproduction system according to claim 20, said data reader further comprising monitor date storage means connected to said detection means of said data reader for storing the date detected by said detection means of said data reader as a monitor date,~~

~~wherein said determination means comprises means for determining whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit, said recorded date, said monitor date and said current date.~~

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27. (original) The data reproduction system according to claim 26, wherein said determination means comprises means for determining that output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed when said current date is after said recorded date, after said monitor date, and before said time limit.

28. (original) The data reproduction system according to claim 27, said data reader further comprising incorrect date detection means for detecting that said current date is incorrect when said current date is before said monitor date.

29. (canceled)

30. (canceled)

31. (currently amended) A data reader used in a data reproduction system reading out, using the data reader, data recorded in a recording medium using a data recorder,

said data recorder recording said data, a time limit allowing output of said data using said data reader, and a recorded date of said data and said time limit being recorded in said recording medium into said recording medium,

said data reader comprising:

detection means for detecting a date,

read means for reading out said time limit and said recorded date from said recording medium,

determination means connected to said detection means and said read means of said data reader for determining whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date read out by said read means and a current date detected by said detection means,

output means connected to said determination means to read out said data from said recording medium for output when output of said data is allowed, and

The data reader according to claim 30, further comprising overwrite means connected to said detection means of said data reader for overwriting the recorded date recorded in said recording medium with the current date detected by said detection means.

32. (currently amended) The data reader according to claim 30<sup>31</sup>, wherein said determination means comprises means for determining that output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed when said current date is after said recorded date and before said time limit.

33. (currently amended) A data reader used in a data reproduction system reading out, using the data reader, data recorded in a recording medium using a data recorder,

said data recorder recording said data, a time limit allowing output of said data using said data reader, and a recorded date of said data and said time limit being recorded in said recording medium into said recording medium,

said data reader comprising:

detection means for detecting a date,

read means for reading out said time limit and said recorded date

from said recording medium,

determination means connected to said detection means and said  
read means of said data reader for determining whether output of said data  
recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time  
limit and said recorded date read out by said read means and a current date  
detected by said detection means, and

output means connected to said determination means to read out said  
data from said recording medium for output when output of said data is  
allowed,

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~~The data reader according to claim 30, wherein said detection means~~  
comprises:

means for detecting a date of commencing output of said data,  
means for detecting an elapsed time from said date of commencing  
output, and  
means for detecting the current date based on said date of  
commencing output and said elapsed time.

34. (currently amended) A data reader used in a data reproduction  
system reading out, using the data reader, data recorded in a recording medium  
using a data recorder,

said data recorder recording said data, a time limit allowing output of said data using said data reader, and a recorded date of said data and said time limit being recorded in said recording medium into said recording medium,

said data reader comprising:

detection means for detecting a date,

read means for reading out said time limit and said recorded date from said recording medium,

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determination means connected to said detection means and said read means of said data reader for determining whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date read out by said read means and a current date detected by said detection means,

output means connected to said determination means to read out said data from said recording medium for output when output of said data is allowed, and

~~The data reader according to claim 30, further comprising incorrect~~  
date detection means for detecting that said current date is incorrect when  
said current date is before said recorded date.

35. (original) The data reader according to claim 34, further  
comprising processing means connected to said incorrect date detection means for



disabling output of said data from said recording medium when detection is made that said current date is incorrect.

36. (currently amended) A data reader used in a data reproduction system reading out, using the data reader, data recorded in a recording medium using a data recorder,

said data recorder recording said data, a time limit allowing output of said data using said data reader, and a recorded date of said data and said time limit being recorded in said recording medium into said recording medium,

said data reader comprising:

detection means for detecting a date,

read means for reading out said time limit and said recorded date from said recording medium,

determination means connected to said detection means and said read means of said data reader for determining whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date read out by said read means and a current date detected by said detection means,

output means connected to said determination means to read out said data from said recording medium for output when output of said data is allowed, and

~~The data reader according to claim 30, further comprising monitor~~  
date storage means connected to said detection means of said data reader  
for storing the date detected by said detection means of said data reader as a  
monitor date,

wherein said determination means comprises means for determining  
whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed  
or not based on said time limit, said recorded date, said monitor date and  
said current date.

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37. (original) The data reader according to claim 36, wherein said  
determination means comprises means for determining that output of said data  
recorded in said recording medium is allowed when said current date is after said  
recorded date, after said monitor date and before said time limit.

38. (original) The data reader according to claim 37, said data reader  
further comprising incorrect date detection means for detecting that said current  
date is incorrect when said current date is before said monitor date.

39. (canceled)

40. (canceled)

41. (currently amended) A data read method in a data reader used in a data reproduction system reading out, using a data reader, data recorded in a recording medium using a data recorder,

said data recorder recording into said recording medium said data, a time limit allowing output of said data using said data reader, and a recorded date of recording said data and said time limit in said recording medium,

said data read method comprising the steps of:

detecting a date,

reading out said time limit and said recorded date from said recording medium, and

determining whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date read out, and a current date detected at said step of detecting a date,

reading out said data from said recording medium for output when output of said data is allowed, and

The data read method according to claim 40, further comprising the step of overwriting the recorded date recorded in said recording medium with the current date detected at said step of detecting a date.

42. (currently amended) The data read method according to claim 4041, wherein said step of determining whether output of data is allowed or not

comprises the step of determining that output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed when said current date is after said recorded date and before said time limit.

43. (currently amended) A data read method in a data reader used in a data reproduction system reading out, using a data reader, data recorded in a recording medium using a data recorder,

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said data recorder recording into said recording medium said data, a time limit allowing output of said data using said data reader, and a recorded date of recording said data and said time limit in said recording medium,

said data read method comprising the steps of:

detecting a date,

reading out said time limit and said recorded date from said recording medium, and

determining whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date read out, and a current date detected at said step of detecting a date, and

reading out said data from said recording medium for output when output of said data is allowed,

~~The data read method according to claim 40, wherein said step of detecting a date comprises the steps of:~~

detecting a date of commencing output of said data,  
detecting an elapsed time from said date of commencing output, and  
detecting the current date based on said date of commencing output  
and said elapsed time.

44. (currently amended) A data read method in a data reader used  
in a data reproduction system reading out, using a data reader, data recorded in a  
recording medium using a data recorder,

said data recorder recording into said recording medium said data, a time  
limit allowing output of said data using said data reader, and a recorded date of  
recording said data and said time limit in said recording medium,

said data read method comprising the steps of:

detecting a date,

reading out said time limit and said recorded date from said  
recording medium, and

determining whether output of said data recorded in said recording  
medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date  
read out, and a current date detected at said step of detecting a date,

reading out said data from said recording medium for output when  
output of said data is allowed, and

~~The data read method according to claim 40, further comprising the step of detecting that said current date is incorrect when said current date is before said recorded date.~~

45. (original) The data read method according to claim 44, further comprising the step of disabling output of said data from said recording medium when detection is made that said current date is incorrect.

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46. (currently amended) A data read method in a data reader used in a data reproduction system reading out, using a data reader, data recorded in a recording medium using a data recorder,

said data recorder recording into said recording medium said data, a time limit allowing output of said data using said data reader, and a recorded date of recording said data and said time limit in said recording medium,

said data read method comprising the steps of:

detecting a date,

reading out said time limit and said recorded date from said recording medium, and

determining whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date read out, and a current date detected at said step of detecting a date,

reading out said data from said recording medium for output when  
output of said data is allowed, and

~~The data read method according to claim 40, further comprising the~~  
~~step of storing the current date detected at said step of detecting a date as a~~  
monitor date,

wherein said step of determining whether output of said data is  
allowed or not comprises the step of determining whether output of said  
data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said  
time limit, said recorded date, said monitor date and said current date.

47. (original) The data read method according to claim 46, wherein  
said step of determining whether output of data is allowed or not comprises the  
step of determining that output of said data recorded in said recording medium is  
allowed when said current date is after said recorded date, after said monitor date  
and before said time limit.

48. (original) The data read method according to claim 47, further  
comprising the step of detecting that said current date is incorrect when said  
current date is before said monitor date.